

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 AGRE-00 OMB-01

TRSE-00 STR-04 /039 W

-----080014Z 109559 /60/17

R 070854Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4623

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 348

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y-TEXT PARA 1. FOURTH LINE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, ETRD, RP

SUBJECT: CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF THE PHILIPPINES TRADE MISSION

TO HANOI

REF: MANILA 215

1. IN CONNECTION WITH THE TRIP DESCRIBED IN REFTEL MR. ROSARIO DE LA CUESTA, SECRETARY OF TREASURY OF THE PHILIPPINE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (CCP), CALLED AT THE EMBASSY JANUARY 7 AND REQUESTED OUR ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING INFORMATION, ABOUT VIETNAM, WHICH WOULD BE HELPFUL TO THEM IN PREPARING FOR YOUR VISIT. INFORMATION REQUIRED: 1) STRUCTURE OF THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT AFTER UNIFICATION WITH SOUTH VIETNAM.

2) A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE VIETNAMESE ECONOMY TODAY. 3) WHO IN VIETNAM DECIDES ON QUESTIONS OF BUYING AND SELLING
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AGREEMENTS WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES? 4) WHAT VIETNAMESE AUTHORITIES DECIDE ON FOREIGN EXCHANGE ALLOCATIONS?

5) WHAT KIND OF BANKING FACILITIES DO THE VIETNAMESE HAVE FOR FACILITATION OF TRADE? 6) WHAT TYPES OF PURCHASES CAN BE MADE ABROAD? 7) WHAT ARE THE VIETNAMESE EXPORT-IMPORT PRIORITIES? 8) WHAT ARE THE NUMBERS FOR IMPORTANT EXPORT-IMPORT STATISTICS? 9) WHAT ARE THE

POLITICAL NUANCES WITH REGARD TO VIETNAM TRADE WITH THE PHILIPPINES AND, IN PARTICULAR, WHY WOULD THE VIETNAMESE APPROACH THE PHILIPPINES FIRST WITH REGARD TO A TRADE MISSION TO HANOI AS OPPOSED TO APPROACHING ONE OF THE OTHER ASEAN COUNTRIES? 10) WHAT IS VIETNAM'S VIEW TOWARD ASEAN? IS IT SIGNIFICANT THAT A BILATERAL APPROACH WAS MADE TO THE PHILIPPINES RATHER THAN AN ASEAN APPROACH?

2. COMMENT: MR. DE LA CUESTA SAID THAT IF WE COULD ASSIST HIM IN THE ABOVE HE WOULD MAKE AN EFFORT TO DEFRIEF THE EMBASSY THOROUGHLY ON ALL HIS OBSERVATIONS IN VIETNAM. EMBASSY BELIEVES WE SHOULD, ACCORDINGLY, MAKE A SPECIAL EFFORT TO GIVE AS COMPLETE ANSWERS AS POSSIBLE TO THE INQUIRIES. WHILE EMBASSY CAN ANSWER TO MORE GENERAL AND POLITICAL QUESTIONS FROM RESOURCES AVAILABLE AT POST, WE WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT PROVIDING TELEGRAPHICALLY PERTINENT INFORMATION CONCERNING VIETNAMESE ECONOMY AND TRADE POLICIES/FACILITIES WHICH CAN APPROPRIATELY BE PASSED TO CCP. GUIDANCE AND COMMENTS FROM THE DEPARTMENT AND FROM OUR HONG KONG AND BANGKOK BASED VIETNAMESE SPECIALISTS WOULD ALSO BE APPRECIATED. AS THE PHILIPPINE TRADE MISSION PLANS TO DEPART DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF FEBRUARY, THE DEPARTMENT'S AND HONG KONG'S RESPONSES NEEDED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. SULLIVAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRADE VISITS, CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MANILA00348
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770011-1040
Format: TEL
From: MANILA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770172/aaaacksg.tel
Line Count: 88
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e69530dc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 MANILA 215
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3645577
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF THE PHILIPPINES TRADE MISSION TO HANOI
TAGS: EGEN, ETRD, OTRA, RP, VN
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e69530dc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009